

**Attention: News Director
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MEDIA RELEASE



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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Western District of Kentucky**

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**JURY CONVICTS LOUISVILLE MEN OF CONSPIRACY
TO DISTRIBUTE CRACK COCAINE**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that SHANE RICARDO ANDRES, age 28, of Louisville, Kentucky, and DESHAUN LAMAR ODENEAL, age 31, also of Louisville, Kentucky, were each found guilty by a federal jury in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, of one count of conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute crack cocaine and marijuana, and one count (each) of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

The jury's verdict of guilty was returned following a two week trial before Judge Charles R. Simpson III, United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky.

Andres and Odeneal had been indicted, along with twenty-three other persons, for conspiring to distribute and possess with intent to distribute controlled substances, including crack cocaine and marijuana. Andres and Odeneal were also charged with possessing firearms in furtherance of their drug trafficking crimes. At trial, the jury heard testimony from other members of the drug conspiracy who had already entered guilty pleas, as well as from past and present associates of Andres and Odeneal, and from police officers and federal agents who had been investigating the group, dubbed the "Detroit Players" by police, because the leaders had come from Detroit in late 1999 and early 2000 to sell crack cocaine and marijuana in the Clarksdale, Park Hill, and Georgetown areas in Louisville. The jury convicted Andres and Odeneal of one count of conspiracy to distribute fifty or more grams of crack cocaine and an unspecified amount of marijuana, and one count each of possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The conspiracy count carries a sentence of ten years to life for Odeneal, who has no previous felony convictions, and a life sentence for Andres, who has two previous felony drug convictions. The firearms counts carry sentences of five years to life, to be imposed consecutively to any other sentence received. Two other alleged members of the conspiracy, Mark Jackson and Matthew Jackson, both 32 years of age, of Louisville, Kentucky, were found not guilty by the jury.

Law enforcement officers estimate that the group they call the "Detroit Players" has distributed at least \$1,000,000 worth of crack cocaine and marijuana during the existence of the conspiracy, which began in late 1999 and continued until the federal indictment was filed in March, 2005. Eighteen of the "Detroit Players" have now been convicted by guilty plea or trial.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress, and was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Louisville Metro Police Department, and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

Andres and Odeneal are scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Charles R. Simpson on May 24, 2006, at 1:30 p.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

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